AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having a program for automating the life cycle of a distributed computing software application, where the distributed computing software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the program comprising logic configured to perform the steps of:

creating a task list which describes how at least one stage in the life cycle of the distributed computing software application is to be performed; and

processing the task list by a process engine to perform at least one stage in the life cycle,

wherein the process engine is integrated with a development environment, where the development environment is used to develop the distributed computing software application.

2. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the development environment is an integrated development environment.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the software application utilizes computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

6. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.

7. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 6, wherein the text file is an XML file.

8. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list includes a first task, wherein the first task packages into a single file all files needed to run the software application.

9. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list includes a second task, wherein the second task distributes the software application to at least one remote computing resource.

10. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list includes a third task, wherein the third task executes the software application on at least one remote computing resource.

11. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list includes a fourth task, wherein the fourth task collects results from at least one remote computing resource.

12. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list includes a fifth task, wherein the fifth task removes the software application from at least one remote computing resource.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for automating the life cycle of a software application, where the software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the system comprising:

a task list editor configured to create a task list, where the task list describes how at least one step in the life cycle of the software application is to be executed, the software application utilizing computing resources distributed over the network when executing; and

a process engine operating on the task list to perform the at least one step in the life cycle.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising:

a development environment for developing the software application, where the process engine is integrated with the development environment.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the development environment is an integrated development environment.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the software application utilizes computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the text file is an XML file.

20. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a first task, wherein the first task packages into a single file all files needed to run the software application.

21. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a second task, wherein the second task distributes the software application to at least one remote computing resource.

22. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a third task, wherein the third task executes the software application on at least one remote computing resource.

23. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a fourth task, wherein the fourth task collects results from at least one remote computing resource.

24. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a fifth task, wherein the fifth task removes the software application from at least one remote computing resource.

25. (Currently Amended) A system for automating the life cycle of a software application, where the software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the system comprising:

creating logic operable to create a task list which describes how at least one stage in the application life cycle is to be performed; and

processing logic responsive to the creating logic, operable to process the task list to perform at least one stage in the application life cycle,

wherein the processing logic is integrated with a development environment, wherein the development environment is used to develop the software application, the software application utilizing computing resources distributed over the network when executing.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the development environment is an integrated development environment.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the software application utilizes computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

29. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[25]] 29, wherein the text file is an XML file.